

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE
USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211463

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION, GENEVA, AUGUST 14-25, 1978: SOVIET AND
EAST EUROPEAN PROPOSAL

REFERENCE: GENEVA 12637 (BEING REPEATED ALL ADDRESSEES)

1. SOVIET AND EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES HAVE INTRODUCED PRO-
POSAL WHICH VICIOUSLY ATTACKS ISRAEL, RAISING DIRECTLY AND
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UNEQUIVOCALLY THE ZIONISM-RACISM ISSUE FOR THE FIRST TIME
IN A CONFERENCE DOCUMENT AND MAKES POLITICAL CHARGES OF
RACIAL AND SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION IN UNITED STATES. REVIEW
HERE OF RESPONSES TO US REPRESENTATIONS ON ZIONISM-RACISM
ISSUE WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS LEFT CLEAR IM-
PRESSION THAT ALTHOUGH EASTERN EUROPEANS DID NOT AGREE WITH
US POSITION AND WOULD NOT OPPOSE ZIONISM AS RACISM LINKAGE

IF RAISED THEY WERE NOT DESIROUS OF SEEING SUBJECT BECOME MAJOR ISSUE AT CONFERENCE. GDR IN PARTICULAR STRESSED DESIRE TO IMPROVE US-GDR RELATIONS. (REF NOTAL BERLIN 5298, BUDAPEST 3258, HAVANA 2435, MOSCOW 19292, SOFIA 1682, WARSAW 7145).

2. FOR BERLIN, BUDAPEST, HAVANA, SOFIA AND WARSAW: REQUEST AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE DELIVER AIDE MEMOIRE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO HIGHEST AVAILABLE FOREIGN OFFICIAL MAKING A. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS DEEPLY DISTURBED BY THE LANGUAGE OF THE PROPOSAL SPONSORED BY YOUR DELEGATION AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION BEING HELD IN GENEVA. THE ACTION BY YOUR DELEGATION IN TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO ADVANCE LANGUAGE WHICH PERPETUATES THE LIE OF "ZIONISM AS BEING A FORM OF RACISM AND RACIST DISCRIMINATION" MUST BE REGRETTED BY ALL WHO HAVE BELIEVED THIS CONFERENCE COULD MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMMENSE AND IMPORTANT UNDERTAKING OF ELIMINATING MANIFESTATIONS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE UNITED STATES FINDS EQUALLY OFFENSIVE THE POLITICAL CHARGE IN THE PROPOSAL THAT GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES "STILL LIVE UNDER THE CONDITION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION."

B. IN THE DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT ON THE ISSUE OF ZIONISM AS A FORM OF RACISM, THE DIFFERENCES IN
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VIEW OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES WERE FRANKLY ACKNOWLEDGED. THERE WAS NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WISHED TO SEE THIS ISSUE RAISED AT THE CONFERENCE NOR THAT IT WOULD UNDERTAKE AN INITIATIVE TO RAISE IT.

C. THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WILL REJECT THE FALSE STATEMENTS IN THE PROPOSAL SPONSORED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT AND, INDEED, WILL QUESTION THE VALIDITY OF ANY CONFERENCE DOCUMENT EMBODYING THESE STATEMENTS. THE UNITED STATES CONSIDERS THAT THE SHARP CONTRAST BETWEEN THE POLICY YOUR GOVERNMENT INDICATED IN ORIGINAL DISCUSSIONS AND THE ACTION TAKEN IN GENEVA IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE CANDOR WE WOULD EXPECT IN OUR RELATIONS.

3. FOR MOSCOW: REQUEST YOU DELIVER AIDE MEMOIRE BUT OMIT PARAGRAPH B. CHANGE PARA C, SECOND SENTENCE, TO READ "THE UNITED STATES CONSIDERS THAT THE ACTION TAKEN IN GENEVA IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE CANDOR WE WOULD EXPECT IN OUR RELATIONS."

4. FOR GENEVA: REQUEST YOU MAKE TEXT OF US AIDE MEMOIRE AVAILABLE WEO DELEGATIONS. YOU SHOULD ALSO USE SUBSTANCE

OF AIDE MEMOIRE IN ENCOUNTERS WITH SPONSORING DELEGATIONS.

5. ACTION ADDRESSEES PLEASE REPORT DELIVERY OF AIDE
MEMOIRE INFO GENEVA. VANCE

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NNN

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